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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/854,403	05/11/2001	Godefridus A.M. Hurkx	PHN 16,741A	8359
24738	7590	08/17/2004	EXAMINER	
PHILIPS ELECTRONICS NORTH AMERICA CORPORATION INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY & STANDARDS 1109 MCKAY DRIVE, M/S-41SJ SAN JOSE, CA 95131				MALDONADO, JULIO J
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2823	

DATE MAILED: 08/17/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Advisory Action	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/854,403	HURKX ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Julio J. Maldonado	2823

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 02 August 2004 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE. Therefore, further action by the applicant is required to avoid abandonment of this application. A proper reply to a final rejection under 37 CFR 1.113 may only be either: (1) a timely filed amendment which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a timely filed Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee); or (3) a timely filed Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114.

PERIOD FOR REPLY [check either a) or b)]

- a) The period for reply expires 4 months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
- b) The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.
ONLY CHECK THIS BOX WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

1. A Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. Appellant's Brief must be filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR 1.192(a), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 1.191(d)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal.
2. The proposed amendment(s) will not be entered because:
 - (a) they raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
 - (b) they raise the issue of new matter (see Note below);
 - (c) they are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
 - (d) they present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____.

3. Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
4. Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
5. The a) affidavit, b) exhibit, or c) request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: See Continuation Sheet.
6. The affidavit or exhibit will NOT be considered because it is not directed SOLELY to issues which were newly raised by the Examiner in the final rejection.
7. For purposes of Appeal, the proposed amendment(s) a) will not be entered or b) will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.

The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:

Claim(s) allowed: _____.

Claim(s) objected to: _____.

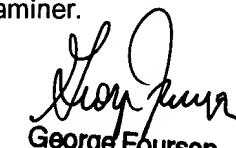
Claim(s) rejected: 6-9.

Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: _____.

8. The drawing correction filed on _____ is a) approved or b) disapproved by the Examiner.

9. Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s)(PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.

10. Other: _____.



George Fourson
Primary Examiner

Continuation of 5. does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: Response to Arguments
Applicant's arguments filed 08/02/2004 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicants' argue, "...the Office Action fails to identify where and how various aspects of the claimed first, second, and third semiconductor regions corresponds to the '228 reference, e.g., relative to the claimed 'partial region with a smaller flux of dopant atoms' in the second semiconductor region...the Office Action fails to identify correspondence to the claim limitations involving a partial region that has a smaller thickness than the remainder of the region as claimed..."

In response to these arguments, the last Office Action, mailed on 06/24/2004, made reference to Williams et al. to U.S. 5,218,228, specifically to the embodiment represented in Fig.6, wherein a region 136 was labeled as a "partial region with a smaller flux of dopant atoms' in the second semiconductor region" as argued. Furthermore, said second semiconductor region was labeled as regions 134 having P dopants, region 136 having P- dopants, and region 138 having P+ dopants, as illustrated in Fig.6. Furtherstill, page 6 of the submitted disclosure teaches, "...The reduced flux of dopants atoms may be realized in that the second semiconductor region 2 is locally, i.e. below the second connection conductor 7, provided with a smaller thickness or a lower doping concentration...". As illustrated in Fig.6, region 136 has smaller thickness and smaller dopant concentration than region 134. Therefore, the above-labeled regions fill the requirements for "forming the second semiconductor region (134, 136, 138) on the first semiconductor region, the second semiconductor region having a partial region (136) with a smaller flux of dopant atoms than another part of the second semiconductor region (134, 136, 138)... wherein the partial region of the second semiconductor region is formed below the second connection conductor and is given a smaller thickness and a lower doping concentration than those in the other region (Fig.6)" as specified in the last Office Action, and as recited in claims 6-8.